

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-12 USIA-12 CU-04 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSC-10 AID-20 DODE-00 PC-15

RSR-01 /112 W

----- 044896

R 120510 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1245

C O N F I D E T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 4605

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB

SUBJ: KHMER REPUBLIC YOUTH PARA

REF: STATE 070302

1. WHILE WE HAVE PERIODICALLY DEVOTED ESUBSTANTIAL ATTENTION TO STUDENT AFFAIRS AS A MAJOR ELEMENT IN CURRENT POLITICS, EMBASSY PHNOM PENH HAS NO FORMALIZED YOUTH COMMITTEE AND UNDER PRESENT WAR CIRCUMSTANCES HAS NEITHER THE THE MANPOWER NOR THE RESOURCES WITH WHICH TO DEVOTE SUBSTANTIAL ATTENTION TO YOUTH AFFAIRS AS SUCH. THUS WHILE WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO PROVIDE MEANINGFUL ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS POSED IN REFTEL, IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT THESE NECESSARILY REFLECT THE EXIGENCIES OF A WARTIME SITUATION AND THE PRIORITIES WHICH MUST AT PRESENT BE PLACED IN OTHER AREAS.

I. YOUTH CATEGORIES

A. CATEGORIES TO WHICH YOUTH EFFORT SHOULD BE DIRECTED:

1. YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS 10 PCT
2. YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS 30 PCT
3. YOUNG BUREAUCRATS 10 PCT

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- 4. MEDIA 5 PCT
- 5. CHURCH 5 PCT
- 6. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY 5 PCT
- 7. EDUCATION 20 PCT
- 8. UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERS 10 PCT
- 9. SECONDARY STUDENT LEADERS 5 PCT

B. THE ABOVE CATEGORIES WERE SELECTED ROUGHLY ON THE BASIS OF THEIR ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SIGNIFICANCE IN THE KHMER REPUBLIC. MILITARY OFFICERS AND BUREAUCRATS RANK HIGH SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY, ALONG WITH THE EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT, COMPRISE MOST OF THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS ELITE OF THE COUNTRY AND BECAUSE A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE PERSONS IN THESE CATEGORIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE WITH TECHNICAL OR HIGHER EDUCATION, CAN BE CONSIDERED YOUTH. OF COURSE, MANY OF THE ABOVE CATEGORIES ARE OVERLAPPING. YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE IN VIRTUALLY ALL CASES EITHER BUREAUCRATS, TEACHERS, OR STUDENTS.

CONCERNING THE MEDIA IT SHOULD BE CLARIFIED THAT AT THE PRESENT TIME THIS CATEGORY IS PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTENT BECAUSE OF A GOVERNMENT ORDER ON MARCH 18 WHICH CLOSED ALL NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLICATIONS EXCEPT THOSE CONTROLLED BY THE STATE. WE INCLUDE THE CATEGORY HERE BECAUSE OF ITS PAST AND PROBABLE FUTURE ROLE IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS. THE CHURCH, IN THIS CASE THE BUDDHIST, ALTHOUGH IN PRINCIPLE DIVORCED FROM PUBLIC AFFAIRS, HAS AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON POPULAR ATTITUDES. SINCE MANY OF THE YOUNGER MONKS ARE MORE INFORMED AND CONCERNED THAN THEIR ELDERS, THEY ARE WORTH AT LEAST PASSING ATTENTION. BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, WHILE RELATIVELY UNIMPORTANT AS FAR AS YOUTH IS CONCERNED, DOES EMPLOY A FEW YOUNG AND WELL- EDUCATED POTENTIAL LEADERS.

YOUNG LEADERSHIP AMONG DISSIDENT MOVEMENTS, ALTHOUGH OF OBVIOUS IMPORTANCE IN THE PRESENT KHMER CONTEXT, IS NOT INCLUDED BECAUSE OF THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF CONTACT BETWEEN AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND THIS GROUP. OTHER CATEGORIES ARE OF NO SIGNIFICANCE IN CAMBODIA.

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C. NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON U. S. INTERESTS IS EXPECTED.

II. OBJECTIVES

A.

- 1. DEVELOP INFLUENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH

LEADERS OF POLITICALLY AWARE YOUTH AND
WITH POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS 25 PCT

2. ENCOURAGE PRAGMATIC APPROACHES TO
NATIONAL PROBLEMS 25 PCT

3. THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH CONTACTS
UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW INCIPIENT POLITICAL
AND SOCIAL TRENDS 20 PCT

4. PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD U. S.
GOALS AND POLICIES 10 PCT

5. FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT 10 PCT

6. FOSTER CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO BILATERAL
TRADE AND U. S. INVESTMENTS IN FUTURE
YEARS 5 PCT

7. HELP STRENGTHEN MODERATE, DEMOCRATIC
GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS 5 PCT

B. BECAUSE THE WARTIME SITUATION NOW PREVAILING
IN CAMBODIA GREATLY RESTRICTS THE SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES IN
THE YOUTH FIELDS, ATTENTION HAS BEEN CONCENTRATED ON
TWO MAJOR OBJECTIVES: 1) THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTACTS
WITH YOUTH AND POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS WHO, BECAUSE
OF THE INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE OF STUDENTS AND
YOUNG PEOPLE IN POLITICAL AFFAIRS, HAVE BEEN A MAJOR
FOCUS OF POLITICAL REPORTING; AND 2) THE ENCOURAGEMENT
OF A PRAGMATIC PROBLEM- SOLVING ATTITUDE IN DEALING WITH
NATIONAL PROBLEMS, WHICH HAS BEEN THE PRINCIPAL FACTOR

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R 120510 Z MAY 73
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C O N F I D E T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 PHNOM PENH 4605

IN THE CHOICE OF FIELDS IN WHICH TO AWARD CU SCHOLARSHIPS TO KHMER STUDENTS. THE GOAL HAS BEEN TO INCREASE THE LEVEL OF MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELDS OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS, WHERE IT IS MOSTLY CONCENTRATED IN THE CHINESE MINORITY, A DANGEROUSLY DIVISIVE FACTOR. OTHER OBJECTIVES, ALTHOUGH OF POTENTIAL FUTURE IMPORTANCE, ARE FOR THE PRESENT LARGELY OVERSHADOWED BY THE PRIORITY WHICH MUST BE ACCORDED TO MORE IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS.

III. RESOURCES

1. CU FULL YEAR ACADEMIC GRANTS TO KHMER STUDENTS 50 PCT
2. MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS 20 PCT
3. USIA CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PROGRAMMING 30 PCT

IV . RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH

A. LOW

B. AS NOTED ABOVE THE PRIORITY WHICH MUST AT PRESENT BE ACCORDED TO OTHER MORE IMMEDIATE AND OVERRIDING REQUIREMENTS GREATLY LIMITS THE TIME AND RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE DEVOTED TO YOUTH AFFAIRS.

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C.

1. PERSONNEL TIME

(A) APPROXIMATELY 2 PCT OF TOTAL PERSONNEL TIME OR 30 MAN MONTHS PER YEAR ARE DEVOTED TO YOUTH AFFAIRS

(B) CONTACT WORK 40 PCT
REPORTING 20 PCT
PROGRAM WORK 40 PCT

(C) STATE 40 PCT
USIA 30 PCT
AID 5 PCT
DOD 25 PCT

2. PROGRAM RESOURCES

CU BUDGET 100 PCT

USIA BUDGET 20 PCT
MAP BUDGET 01 PCT
SWANK

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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